Equal Rights

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The Thin Woman

A Drypoint by Peggy Bacon, One of America's Leading Artists.

Feminist Notes

Women Internes

BELLEVUE HOSPITAL, New York City, gives opportunities to more women to serve as internes than any other institution in the world, Dr. Bertha Van Hoosen says in the July *Medical Women's Journal.* In 1925 this hospital had twenty women internes and nine women resident physicians. Bellevue opened its doors to women internes in 1924, and since that time has had 150 women serving the hospital in this capacity. The Philippine General Hospital comes second, with thirteen women, and the Children's Hospital of San Francisco, California, comes third. The New England Hospital, however, has in its history admitted more women as internes than any other hospital, 400 women physicians having served there. This was the first hospital established by women for women, and only women are admitted as internes.

Woman's Work

"A WOMAN'S work is where she can get a job," comments the Washington *Daily News,* in connection with a picture of Irene Rodney, 15, of Newark, New Jersey, who works with her father as a carpenter "and never hits her thumb when she drives a nail."

Two 14-Year-Old Girls

THE Baltimore *Sun* had the following comment heading its editorial page on August 25:

"Two girls of fourteen figure in the news in different ways. Miss Laura Calligan of Baltimore exhibits the independence of American womanhood by swimming across the Chesapeake. Miss Akiko Kuga of Kyoto illustrates the docility of Japanese femininity by obeying without question the instructions of her illustrious father, Marquis Kuga, that she enter a Buddist nunnery for life. As the account of her initiation runs: 'Miss Kuka did not know that she was to become a nun until informed, a week before the ceremony, that it had been arranged between the family and the temple at her birth.'"

Women Bank Presidents

THERE are six women bank presidents in the Association of Bank Women.

Women Dental Hygienists

MORE than 1,000 women attended the first annual convention of the American Dental Hygienists' Association in Philadelphia in August. Edith Hardy of Rochester, New York, was the first president of the association.

England's First Woman Movie Manager

MRS. RICHARD NORTON, a descendant of Richard Brinsley Sheridan, is the first English woman to manage a motion picture theatre. She is in charge of a London theatre.

Woman on Aviation Committee

THE advisory committee for the British Air League has a woman member. Elsie Mackay, a pioneer amongst women aviators, expects to devote much time to aeronautics, so that her place on this committee will be no sinecure.

A Woman Pharmacist's Record

IN the 24 years she has been a druggist, Julia Emanuel of Fort Wayne, Indiana, has compounded a quarter of a million prescriptions.

Chinese Women Protest Against Prohibition of Co-education

THE Women's Department of the Kuomintang in Shanghai has issued a manifesto protesting against the recent decision of General Sun to prohibit co-education and free marriage among the students. They declared that the matter concerns the future happiness of women and that they will fight against the decision until it is withdrawn by the authorities. The manifesto reads:

"Women in China have lived under oppression for four thousand years. We have been made victims of the old etiquette. All action has been monopolized by men.

"Women in China realized the necessity of immediate emancipation after the occurence of the May 4th incident. Since then, co-education and free marriage have been the general demand of the younger generation.

"The reason why women have been kept under the yoke of old etiquette for thousands of years without themselves knowing it is their lack of proper education. Co-education will give women higher education. Therefore, co-education and free marriage are very important in the women's point of view.

"The authorities are now prohibiting co-education and free marriage. We can not but regard this as a direct insult to our sex. We must struggle against this decision.

"Women's rights are clearly stipulated in the principles of the Kuomintang. The militarists have no right to deprive us of such rights.

"We hope all our sisters in the country to rise up and support us in our struggle.

"Signed: Women's Department of the Kuomintang of Shanghai."

Reason and the Academie Francaise

"SUCH things passed for reason in the early Eocene," quotes the *Medical Women's Journal* (July), in commenting upon the failure of the Academie Francaise to open its doors to Marie Curie, who, with her husband, Pierre Curie, was the first to isolate radium. In 1903 Mme. Curie and her husband were awarded the Nobel Prize in chemistry; in 1910 Mme. Curie was given the Albert Medal by the Royal Society of London; in 1911 she again received the Nobel Prize in chemistry; but despite the fact that there is a vacancy in its membership, the French Academy has not chosen Mme. Curie.

Woman Judge in Turkey

THE Angora Government has recently appointed a woman judge —the first time that a woman has held such an office in that country.

Some Candidates for Congress

ESTHER GRIFFIN WHITE is running for the House of Representatives as a wet in Indiana. She is a Republican. Mrs. J. S. Lane, a Democrat of Kentucky, also hopes to obtain a seat in the House of Representatives.

Women of the East

THE inequality of the sexes is the most significant factor of backwardness in the Near East, according to E. D. Cushman, the Boston woman, upon whom the Greek Government conferred its highest civilian decoration, the gold cross of St. Xavier, in recognition of her leadership in the training and education of women of the Near East.

Miss Cushman is the director of the Near East Relief Orphan Training School at Corinth, Greece. She was born in New York State of New England parents, and is a descendant of Robert Cushman, who chartered the Mayflower. When she went to the Near East twenty-six years ago as a medical missionary, she took with her the inherited ideals of her pioneer ancestors, who had braved and conquered a wilderness and had conceived a new democracy.

Since the war Miss Cushman has been the director of a group of Near East Relief schools, through which have passed more than 9,000 refugee children. She introduced co-educational education in these schools, first in the interior of Turkey and later among the refugee children of Greece. Her plan of co-education was the first experiment of its kind in the Near East, and it met with entire success from the start.

Peggy Bacon

By E. Buckner Kirk

IT takes an extremely determined young woman to do creative work with one hand, as it were, and manage an apartment, a husband, and two small children with the other. Determination is one of the outstanding characteristics of Peggy Bacon. In her case it springs from a creative urge so strong that she compels circumstance to yield to it. There are today hundreds of women who "want to do their own work" in a sense quite different from what our grandmothers meant by the phrase. There are thousands more who "would like to do their own work." And all of them know by experience how difficult it is to find time in the midst of the domestic hurly-burly. Peggy makes time. Time for work, for her, comes into the same catagory as the troublesome but necessary spinach and orange juice for the children.

The cultural state of modern America does not help simplify Peggy's problems. A professional ball player may get $50,000 a year. The average professional artist is rich with $5,000. Hence it takes cunning strategy for the mother of two children under six to feed and clothe and house her family while permitting herself the leasure in which to turn out drypoints, etchings, and drawings that call for serious consideration in any critical survey of contemporary American art.

I don't know much about the feeding of the small Brooks. (Peggy would be Mrs. Alexander Brook if she did not 'Lucy Stone.') I have seen them eating prunes and their appearance suggests that their diet is all it should be. As for their clothes, Peggy makes many of them herself. Multi-colored caps and scarfs of peasant cloth brighten their winter out-of-doors costume and Belinda's flowered muslin frocks are a delight.

Belinda, by the way, may yet rival her mother. One evening last winter the children came in from play in Washington Square. Sandy, age three, in whose eyes Belinda, age six, is perfect, told the tale of the afternoon indignantly. Belinda had drawn the portrait of a playmate in chalk on the pavement. A big boy rode his wheel right across this work of art and was rude enough to call it a "dumb picture." "And it wasn't a dumb picture, was it Belinda?" urged her small champion. "Yes," said Belinda impartially, "it was a dumb picture. But then Mary is dumb, so the picture was dumb."

It is during this afternoon playtime, when the colored maid takes the children to the square that Peggy finds time for her own work. Naturally the amount she can do is limited, but whatever she lacks in quantity Peggy makes up in quality. There is no broad, swift, slap-dash about her work. In so far as she is able—and Peggy is very able—each of the small prints and pencil drawings on which her fame rests is "preciously, minutely perfect."

Peggy Bacon began her career, according to her artist husband, "with terrible temporas that sold rapidly." From these she passed on to dry-point, and there must have been a great revolution, for these were not terrible. The acrid, intractable medium lent itself sympathetically to her temperament. Digging into the copper plate with the sharp point of her needle, Peggy conquered three aspects of her art. She achieved a beautiful and flexible line; she developed her ideas of characterization — or caricature — and she learned a vast deal about composition.

Gertrude Ederle

Written for the Christian Science Monitor

Young, confident, she started out to sea
And waterfowls in their mid-morning flight,
Looked down on one whom waves could not affright,
On one who swam with rhythmic strokes and free
On, on, and ever onward, steadily.
Morning and afternoon, long dark. Then light
Of beacon fires rising through the night,
And consummation—land and victory!

First Lady of the Channel, ocean's child!
To the high heart alone such rank is given;
For to a far, inexorable shore
Through rugged waters, cold, and deep, and wild,
All day, into the night, a girl has striven;
Another limitation is no more.

—*Alice Lawry Gould.*

THERE is no finer example of Peggy Bacon's drawing than the print that is reproduced on the cover of this issue. That sure clean line, caressing the awkward curves and angles of her figures creates beauty out of ugliness.

Toward people by and large, Peggy has much the same attitude that Belinda has toward Mary. But her mature sophistication goes Belinda's childish viewpoint one better. People are 'dumb,' but they are funny! One has only to examine the print called "Hatty." Hatty is the waitress in a small Chelsea restaurant in London. A magestic cat, crossing her path at an inopportune moment, has so startled the poor thing that a cup of tea and a plate of buns fall from her clumsy hands. Her elbow is sharp as her nose. Her lax mouth, wispy hair, chicken breast, wobbly knees all add to the picture of the perfect moron. About the room sit a score of other 'dumbbells'—Peggy, her husband, and an English friend so more mercifully treated than the rest. The frequent inclusion of herself in Peggy's prints takes the edge off what is sometimes a cruel and supercilious sense of humor. We are all such asses, she seems to be saying, including the world in her criticism.

ONE can pick out and discuss a score of individuals such as Hatty in Peggy's prints, and that is a tribute to their vividness. But Peggy is too much of an artist to put her entire effort into making drawings of people who are at once alive and absurd. She has, towards her work, that purely creative attitude which sees in that work a chance to bring order out of chaos in however small a way—if it is only on an eight by five copper plate.

Order in pictures comes through design and Peggy enjoys weaving patterns. Some of her prints have the same kind of beauty one finds in a Persian miniature. Each minute, lovingly drawn detail has its carefully considered place in the composition as a whole. And the design itself is true and fine as the design of an oriental rug is almost inevitably true and fine —true to its size and shape and medium, fine in execution.

It is Peggy's most recent work, pencil drawings, that one finds her design at its best. In "The Blessed Damosel" for instance, she has struck off one of those pinched and pointed elderly virgins that always tickle her sense of humor. The flat hat, the high collar, the needle-sharp bones, prim expression. This figure is the center of the picture as a heart is the center of a flower bordered valentine. And like the valentine Peggy's picture is flower bordered. The maiden lady on her stiff chair sits in a garden beautifully blossoming—each leaf and bloom and blade of grass at once a rich detail in itself and a firm thread in the fine-woven pattern of the whole.

In summer the Brook family moves to Woodstock. What Peggy will bring back to the city this fall no one can foretell. But the last four or five years speak for themselves and have produced work with which Peggy may well feel content. Being an artist, she is not. And as she is barely passed thirty, we may look forward with interest and pleasure not only to what this summer in the country may bring forth, but what will be forth-coming in the years ahead.

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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

To remove all forms of the subjection of women.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 11.
House Joint Resolution Number 81.]

Introduced in the Senate, December 8, 1925, by SENATOR CHARLES E. CURTIS.
Introduced in the House of Representatives, December 16, 1925. by REPRESENTATIVE D. R. ANTHONY.

The Significance of the Woman's Party

EVER since the organization of the Congressional Union, which later metamorphosed into the National Woman's Party, there has been a definite but unphrased feeling abroad that this group of Feminists differed in some subtle and perhaps exasperating way from the other constituent groups of the woman's movement. In earlier days when suffrage was the objective, the Woman's Party was regarded both with horror and dismay by the other organizations that were working for the enfranchisement of women. From time to time pronunciamentos were issued by the more conservative groups, stating that this or that activity of the Woman's Party had "set back woman suffrage at least twenty years." A compilation of these "setbacks" made in 1918 indicated that if the critics of the Woman's Party were correct in their estimates, the women of America would not be voting before the year 2058 A.D. After the vote was won the sins of the Woman's Party, in connection with the suffrage campaign, were forgiven or forgotten, but with the resumption of Equal Rights activities following the winning of the franchise the erstwhile antagonism to the Party's methods reappeared.

A characteristic instance of this attitude on the part of other so-called Feminist groups is to be found in the action taken last June by the International Woman Suffrage Alliance excluding the Woman's Party from membership in the Alliance, while disclaiming any serious disparity between the programs of the two organizations.

What then is it that differentiates the Woman's Party so sharply from other groups of women that profess to support the principle of Equal Rights for the two sexes?

The casual student of the woman's movement in America will reply: "The difference is obvious; the Womans' Party stands for Equal Rights in industry, whereas the other groups in America endorse protective legislation based on sex." Which is perfectly true, but inadequate as an explanation.

The officers of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, for instance, made it perfectly clear that the ground for the exclusion of the Woman's Party from membership was not the industrial equality plank. This statement was further supported by the fact that the same Congress that voted to exclude the Woman's Party was ready to admit Lady Rhondda's Six Point Group, which also endorses industrial equality.

No, the difference is not to be found in any single plank, nor in all the planks of the entire platform.

THE thing that marks the Woman's Party off from the other groups in the woman's movement in America is more subtle and more inflexible than any verbal credo. It is an attitude toward women and toward the work for their emancipation that has no counterpart among the other organizations.

In this lies the significance of the Woman's Party: It, alone, of all the national organizations of American women, holds beyond any possibility of compromise that women are the equals of men; it repudiates both privileges and disabilities based on sex in every sphere of human activity, and it possesses both a program of action designed to remove the remaining forms of the subjection of women, and the spirit to see this program through.

The leaders of the Woman's Party are not Utopians; they may be idealists, but they have their feet solidly on the ground. They both know and are practical politicians. They regard the work of the Party as work and not entertainment, and resent waste effort as much as does any efficiency expert in Big Business. Above all they possess a detailed plan, not reaching into unchartable regions, but sufficient unto the day and adequate to keep all of the members of the Party working all of the time.

In these days of amorphous objectives, when so many expeditions for the Promised Land set out without map or compass, presently to leave their bones strewn along the way, it is a rare comfort to know that in one organization, at least, money and effort can be invested with security. Those who desire to behold the complete emancipation of women can with the assurance of accomplished results throw in their lot with the Woman's Party. They may not find social entertainment comparable with that offered by the other groups; they certainly will not observe an increase in their personal popularity with the outside world, but they will be able to count a milestone or two on the path toward liberty.

For those whose sincere wish it is to serve humanity, no more convincing reward can in simple honesty be offered.

China's First Portia

From *The China Press*

SHANGHAI.—The first woman lawyer in the history of China! She is Miss Soumay Tcheng of No. 8 Joffre Terrace, earnest young student of politics for the past 16 years, fluent French scholar, former attache of the Chinese delegation to the Peace Conference in Paris, author, graduate Doctor of Laws from the University of Paris, and one-time revolutionist, who proved a real Chinese Joan of Arc to her wretched, oppressed countrymen in the stirring times of the Manchu overthrow.

The story of Soumay Tcheng, who is not only the first woman attorney in all China, but the first Chinese of either sex to be admitted to the practice of her profession in the French courts of Shanghai, is a tale that puts to shame, with its sheer reality and vivid adventure, the imaginary episodes woven into the lives of silver screen heroines.

When sitting in her home talking quietly to this extraordinary young woman, discussing the fourteen years of her sojourn in France, where she studied at the Sorbonne and the Paris University, and the tour of France, England and America she made in the interests of the Chinese nation following the signing of peace at Versailles, it is hard to believe that here is the same ardent young patriot, who, fifteen years before, carried bombs from Tientsin to Peking to be used for the assassination of the Manchu leaders.

All the fire and enthusiasm of a cause, still the closest to the heart of Soumay Tcheng, did not burn away in the period of hysteria that necessarily accompanies a revolution. Soumay Tcheng's first concern today, as back in 1911, when she was but an eager, fiery-eyed girl of 17, willing to brave anything for her country, is still the emancipation of her people from ignorance, degradation and oppression.

Two weeks ago she was the leading woman in a simple ceremony in the French court. When it was finished, Soumay Tcheng could enter that sacred legal portal as China's first Portia.

"But I do not intend to practice law," Miss Tcheng tells you. "I studied law so that I could be the most use to my country, to my fellow-Chinese. Now I am back in China to teach and lecture, to spread the gospel of education for the masses, and particularly for women."

From championing the cause of democracy, Soumay Tcheng has come to join with her sisters in a fight for the freedom of her sex. She and her fellow-revolutionists were successful in 1911 and '12 in throwing off the tyrannous yoke of the Manchus. China was freed forever of the curse of this imperial line. Now Soumay Tcheng is attempting a much more difficult task. For the wheels of revolution and open destruction of the existing order move much faster always than the mere constructive machinery of establishing a new educational system and line of thought.

"The women of China must change with changing conditions," Miss Tcheng says. "The Chinese women must unite and work quickly and conscientiously for their own freedom from ignorance and injustice. Chinese women have been kept subservient too many centuries. They are just waking up. Two generations and you will not recognize them."

"First, I believe education must be equal for men and women. The masculine side of the race should not have any more intellectual opportunities than the feminine. That day has gone.

"Secondly, women must have economic freedom. They must be free to go into the world and learn the trades and professions of men; to compete with the male at his work, rather than be a mere playmate, subject to his whim.

"Third, and lastly, the women of China must have political equality. We have established our republican form of government; it has taken years to evolve, and is still going through the process of evolution. But order will be brought eventually. The start has been made. The women of China helped make that start. They must have a hand in the government of their nation."

Miss Tcheng is very hopeful for the future of China politically. Although recognizing the difficulties in the maintenance of a central government while warring goes on between various factions, these, in her mind, are but the growing pains of a republic.

SOUMAY TCHENG was born in Canton, the daughter of a wealthy and aristocratic family, on February 22, 1894. Her father was senior official at the Ministry of Finance under the Manchu regime. Early in life Soumay proved her independence of spirit, and defied the traditions of her day by tearing off the bindings on her feet. She was 10 then. At 14 she repeated her bid for freedom by doing what no girl in all China had dared before—she broke her engagement to a high-born lad, son of the Governor of Canton, and so scandalized the society of the day that her father was glad to allow her to have her way about going to school and obtaining an education, which no Chinese girl had even dreamed of previously.

School in Tientsin unfolded more of that outside world and its exciting life to the young Soumay, and a year of two later she became one of the most active members of the secret Kuo Ming Tang Society, which led in the revolution against Manchu tyranny. Living in Peking, going about to the parties of the young set, dancing and dining and having tea with foreigners and Chinese in the fashionable places of the day, Soumay, then but 16, all the time leading a double life, meeting with her revolutionary comrades on the side, and plotting and planning against the hated Manchus.

ALL of this period of excitement is revealed in the pages of her "Souvenirs D'Enfance et de Revolution," which she published several years ago in France, and again in "The Land of Soumay," written in English by O. B. Van Vorst, as the story fell from the lips of Soumay Tcheng. This latter is now in manuscript form but will be published later.

When the revolution was history, and Soumay had done with her bomb-carrying, she went to Paris with a group of other young Chinese revolutionists who were to seek higher education in order to return to their land and continue aiding the new republic. Just a year ago she was granted her Doctor of Law degree by the University of Paris. In the meantime she had returned to China in 1917 to carry the message of the World War situation to her own people and to enlist their greater support for the Allied cause.

After she finished her work at the Peace Conference, Soumay Tcheng crossed the United States, speaking everywhere on her country's problems. Then she returned once more to China and succeeded in the double task of persuading the Chinese Government to educate 20 girls abroad, and of persuading their families to let them go.

Back to Paris she went in charge of the delegation of young women students, continuing her studies during the period also. When her final examinations came, she passed these with honors, her selected dissertation for the Doctor's degree being "Le Mouvement Constitutionel et Chine Stude de Droit Comparo." She has also written a book entitled, "The Model Chinese Family," which has had a very large circulation.

While in France Miss Tcheng was in close contact with French statesmen, writers and artists. More recently, since her return to her mother country, Soumay Tcheng has been appointed by the Ministry of Justice in Peking as investigator of the legal systems of the different countries in Europe. She has made an exhaustive study of the law codes of her own country, as well as those of France, England and other countries on the continent,

and now is interesting herself especially in the problem of extra-territoriality, although she will not discuss it on account of her connection with the government.

To this bobbed-haired young daughter of Cathay, in her Paris frocks and high-heeled boots with her brightly carmined lips the women of China can look for their aid in throwing off the yoke of husband, mother-in-law and tradition. Soumay Tcheng has struck the first note in the pealing of that bell of feminine equality for the woman of her race.

Although only now 32 years old, she has led in the cataclysmic revolution that overthrew the government of her mother country. She has travelled and lived abroad alone, and returned to her homeland with the first law degree conferred on any woman in China. She has sat with the leaders of her nation in the political discussions following the World War. Now she is dedicating her life to the women of her country.

The Different Purposes of the National Woman's Party and the League of Women Voters

By Jane Norman Smith

Editor's Note: Mrs. Smith is the New York State chairman of the National Woman's Party, and a member of the National Council. She was one of the Woman's Party representatives at the Paris Convention of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance in June.

IN appearing before the Executive Board of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance at the Paris Congress to oppose the admittance of the Woman's Party to membership, Belle Sherwin, national president of the League of Women Voters, told the board that it was unnecessary to admit the Woman's Party because of its work for Equal Rights for men and women in the United States, since "the League has been and is working for the same object by slow and careful methods."

In order that some of our members, both here and abroad, may fully understand the difference between the programs of the two organizations, the following explanation is offered:

The National Woman's Party is concentrated on the one object of securing Equal Rights for men and women before the law and in every pursuit of life. It has had introduced in Congress and is actively working for the passage of an amendment to the Federal Constitution, "Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction," and, in addition, has had introduced and passed in the various State legislatures separate Equal Rights bills amending specific laws discriminating against women. In the State of New York, for example, during the last four years, the Woman's Party has secured the passage of nine Equal Rights bills. It is absolutely opposed to any special restrictive labor laws for women, and wherever such legislation has been introduced, the Woman's Party has asked to have it amended to apply to men as well as women.

The National Woman Suffrage Association, before the completion of ratification of the Suffrage Amendment, reorganized under the name of the National League of Women Voters. Its "Proposed Program of Work," for 1925-1926, prepared for its annual convention in 1925, recommends legislation "to be undertaken as occasion warrants" under the following headings:

Department of Efficiency in Government—Five legislative acts, State and National.

Committee on Education—Three Federal laws, three State laws. These particular proposed laws have to do with improving the educational system, but make no mention of the discriminations against women which exist in the school system of every State.

Public Welfare in Government—Four Federal laws and three State laws.

Committee on Legal Status of Women—Asks for the removal of all common law disabilities of women and proposes four Equal Rights bills. A note explains that the "The committee is engaged in the preparation of model laws covering portions of this program."

Committee on Living Costs — Four Federal laws and three State laws.

Commitee on Social Hygiene — Two Federal laws and five State laws.

Committee on Women in Industry—Two Federal laws and four State laws, which include an 8-hour day and prohibition of night work for women by law.

Department of International Cooperation to Prevent War — Six Federal laws.

The list of subjects for which legislation is asked is a lengthy one and includes:

A shorter ballot;
Direct primary;
Merit System in Civil Service;
Ratification of Child Labor Amendment;
Establishment of a Federal Department of Education;
Opposition to Efforts in Congress to Abolish or Undermine Federal Trade Commission;
Restoration of Power to that Commission to Administer the Packer and Stockyards Act;
Public Markets, Slaughter-houses and Terminals;
Development of Muscle Shoals as a National Asset;
Unfair Trade Practices;
State Appropriations for Vocational Work in Home Economics;
Entry Into Permanent Court of International Justice.

The League is opposed to the Federal Equal Rights Amendment, is opposed to industrial equality for women, and is working for the passage of special restrictive laws for women in industry.

It would seem evident that in order not to scatter its interests over too wide a field in carrying out this stupendous legislative program, the League might have to decide upon a few issues of paramount importance, which would constitute its main purpose. Our readers will therefore, be interested in the following article by Katherine Ludington, treasurer of the National League of Women Voters, which was published in the July 30, 1926, issue of the *Weekly News*, the official weekly bulletin of the New York League of Women Voters, which clearly presents the purpose of the National League of Women Voters:

"In the first year the L. W. V. was somewhat variously defined but I think more and more we are coming to use the phrase that its purpose is to increase the number of *active, responsible and informed voters.* The more you think of that phrase the more you find that our complex and sometimes apparently loosely integrated purposes all fall in line under it.

"After all, in the League of Women Voters, we are building a great national institution. We aren't the only ones who have said it. It is being said by students of political science, by men and women studying the weaknesses of democratic government, the development of democracy in this country, and we are building *up an institution which is more and more unitedly and consciously addressing itself to one phase of democracy: that is the functioning or the non-functioning of the electorate in this country.* Every other question with which this democracy has to deal is ultimately going to be influenced for good or evil by the way in which the electorate of this country functions.

"One of the members of our financial advisory board said, 'I believe you women have stumbled upon the thing which is the next logical step in democracy if democracy itself is to survive in this country, and that is, the voter must be trained to function and some method must be found to train him and her.'

"That in itself is a cause. The League is urged almost every day to take on some fighting crusade in this country and we are told we are pussyfooters when we don't. Isn't our main purpose itself a crusade to which all other sections of our program and purposes should minister?

"My contention is that the League of Women Voters is in itself a crusade for the betterment of democratic methods in the United States. That for me is good enough to work for. That is the purpose of the National League of Women Voters.*

* The italics are mine, J. N. S.

Press Comment

Women in the League of Nations

By Leonora De Alberti, Hon. Secretary of Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations. From the Woman's Leader,

London, England, July 30, 1926.

IT is a matter of grave concern to women interested in the League of Nations that the seventh clause of the covenant foreshadowing the equality of men and women within the League has as yet borne but little fruit. Year after year a half dozen women attend the Assembly of the League, but as substitute delegates only. So far no government has had the courage, it seems to call for courage, to appoint a woman as fully accredited delegate. The Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations has always urged that women should be appointed as full delegates.

The Council has also persistently urged that women technical advisers should accompany the British representative to the sessions of the Council of the League. We have asked international bodies to take up this question in other countries. Women can never take their proper place in the League while they are completely shut out from the deliberations of the Council. Until women hold the rank of Foreign Secretary we cannot expect that a woman will represent her country on the Council of the League, but they should certainly be appointed as technical advisers.

It is perhaps even more important that women should be adequately represented in the International Labour Office and at the International Labour Conferences. The International Labour Office has the power to restrict and interfere with women's work, which constitutes a real danger to women unless they are adequately represented. Unfortunately instead of repeating the seventh clause of the covenant, which throws open all positions in the League to women equally with men, a clause was inserted in the constitution of the International Labour Office laying down that: "When questions specially affecting women are to be considered by the Conference, one at least of the advisers (who accompany the delegates) shall be a woman." This clause has been interpreted to mean that it is only necessary to appoint women, and then merely as technical advisers, when in the opinion of the authorities the questions to be discussed are of importance to women. It was for this reason that the Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations asked the director of the Labour Office to remind governments that the seventh clause of the covenant applies to the International Labour Office. This he very kindly did in his letter convoking the eighth International Labour Conference; nevertheless, only six women attended that conference, and they were appointed as technical advisers, there was not a single woman delegate. The clause respecting women technical advisers is indeed a stumbling block.

As the International Labour Office is now considering the question of forced labour my Council applied to the Colonial Office for information as to the extent to which women are employed in forced labour within the British Empire. According to the answer of the Secretary of State, in the following territories, Fiji, Gambia, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone, and the Islands of the Western Pacific High Commission, "there is no compulsory labour for women, except in so far as, in conformity with tribal customs respected by His Majesty's Government, women may be called upon by their native chiefs to perform duties which by recognized custom they invariably perform." In other parts of the Empire women are not employed in forced labour. The International Labour Office will not formulate a "Charter of Native Labour," as at first suggested, but will submit to the governments concerned draft agreements for organizing the protection of native labour. My Council urges that women shall be given a voice in all these matters. We ask that they be appointed in adequate numbers to the Commissions of the League.

The Health Committee of the League is to investigate the question of infant mortality and infant welfare, and we are glad to say that the Ministry of Health has appointed Dame Janet Campbell as the British expert to assist the Medical Director in preparing a report for the Health Committee, touching the manner in which this investigation can be best carried out.

These are some of the questions upon which we have been working of late; it is an uphill task, for though the equality of the sexes is recognized in the covenant, sex prejudice cannot be wiped out with a stroke of the pen. This does not mean that no progress has been made, great progress has been made, yet there is a long road to travel before we reach the equality promised in the covenant.

Will Rogers Offers Prizes for Male Parent Swimmers

Special Cable to New York Times.

To the Editor of New York Times:

London, Aug. 31.

Since a mother swam the Channel there has been no living with my wife over there. Will you please find out for me if this German who swam it is a father? If he was not, I will give $500 to the first father that swims it and $1,000 to the first grandfather.

Yours for equality in sex.

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Peggy Bacon's Viewpoint

THE *Christian Science Monitor* has the following to say of the work of Peggy Bacon, whose drypoint, "The Thin Woman," EQUAL RIGHTS has the honor of reproducing on the cover of this issue:

So many people are already watching Peggy Bacon that she is no more "a discovery" among the younger artists, and yet her work is so distinctive, and one's first view of her crayon drawings or drypoints so like a revealing flash of lightning, bright illumination of unmasked creatures that even at this late date her following grows with little whoops of discovery like exploding firecrackers. She startles and delights by the way her lines fix the actual man, the true absurdities. She takes her subjects as she finds them, on boats, in areaways, on city sidewalks, and will have none of pretty sitters, with best foot forward and best face thrust hopefully toward the artist who is expected. . . . No use expecting anything of Peggy Bacon but what it suits her to see. And what an eye for the particular oddity that differentiates the human peas. A hard eye she has, and a curling tongue, and one of the deftest hands now holding pen or pencil.

A good many people have seen themselves as Peggy saw them and instead of clearing the air with shrieks of recognition have gone away hard-hearted at the dainty stripping, poses peeled, the plain statement of scene; and having gone away huffy returned to uproarious laughter at what she has seen in others than themselves, and finally, to study appreciatively the blitheness of her burlesque, and the essential sensitiveness that produced "Mary," portrait of a negro woman paring apples, or "Cat and Kittens," one of her pencil drawings.

Peggy Bacon was born in Connecticut, and is the daughter of Charles R. Bacon, who was himself an artist. As a child she made litle tales and little pictures; she has always beheld the world in a barrel of odd patterns, and has turned over all she saw with a witty fillup. She studied at the Art Students' League. In two of her best known drypoints, "The Bellows Class," and "John Sloan's Lecture" (both reproduced in the younger Artists' Series edited by William Murrell—a series of useful and delightful handbooks that prospered not half so well as they deserved), she has left a Daumier-like record of her student days.

She is author and illustrator of three books, chapbookish books, "The True Philosopher and Other Cat Tails" (Boston, 1919) and, with her husband, Alexander Brook, of "Belinda" (London, 1920), and "Funeralties," an exquisitely printed volume of verses, adorned with pen-and-ink drawings. It is no secret that her next book, now in the making, is another game altogether and is a storybook for her young Belinda and young Sandy, readers under 5, illustrated by pictures—secret—for every age.

Exhibitions by Peggy Bacon in 1925 and 1926 at the Montross Galleries, New York, have been notable for her extraordinary pencil drawings, scenes in which animal and flower forms, as delicately executed as Persian miniatures, and yet with serious emotional power, to the modern beholder, have made a memorable impression. She works a month or more on a single pencil drawing; the result is not to be explained. But her squaking nest of newly-hatched wrens is not to be forgotten; her uncurling cabbage is a symbol of perfection.

The July *New Masses* reproduced two of her latest drawings, "The Comic Strip Artist" and "The Little Jumper Dress," devastating caricatures, yet so beautifully and exactly drawn, subjects so chosen from the immediate New York scene, that she creates new eyesight in her followers. "Whoops," we say, now recognizing ourselves in the creature the trolley forgot ("foiled again"), now alert to the stretching alley cat, "The Pet" or the marvel of a Tom's acrobatics along the barbed wire Greenwich Village Fence. And occasionally "Whoops" and the long-drawn "Ah . . ." together as at "The Blessed Damosel," pencil drawing of a woman in a sailor hat, sitting in a heavenly meadow.

Two Million Dollar Fund

Treasurer's Report

EDITH AINGE, *Treasurer*
NETTIE TRAIL: *C. P. A., Auditor.*

RECEIPTS collected by National Headquarters, December 7, 1912, to August 20, 1926, $1,359,740.53.

Contributions, membership and other receipts, August 20 to 31, 1926:

Miss Anna E. Henderson, D. C.	$1.00
Miss Nannie Cramer Bandollar, D. C.	1.00
Miss Margaret Sparhawk, Vt.	1.00
Miss Doris Stevens, N. Y.	200.00
Mrs. Isaac Dixon, Md.	120.00
Miss Anita Pollitzer, S. C.	10.00
Miss Sybil Jane Moore, Wash.	20.00
Miss Anne Martin, Nev.	3.00
Miss Jessie Dell, D. C.	3.00
Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, N. Y.	40.00
Miss Eleanor Castle Neff	.75
Miss Estelle Hellman, D. C.	10.00
Mrs. M. C. Dodge, England	25.00
Mrs. Donald R. Hooker, Md.	10.00
Mrs. Mark Bradley, Calif.	1.00
Per Maryland Branch: (Maryland Branch retaining one-half)	
Mrs. Thomas S. Cullen	5.00
Mrs. H. M. Strasser	.50
Mrs. George Smith	.50
Mrs. Frances B. Ackerman, N. Y.	25.00
Miss Manda Hirsius, Ohio	100.00
Mrs. Valentine Winters, Ohio	25.00
District of Columbia Branch	30.00
District of Columbia Branch: (D. C. Branch retaining one-half)	
Miss Emma Hahm	5.00
Miss Alice L. Cost	.50
Miss Ella Scheele	.50
Miss Helen Paul, N. J.	10.00
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Mrs. Alexis I. duPont, Del.	300.00
Michigan Branch	108.00
Mrs. A. I. duPont, Del.	150.00
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Miss Sue White, Tenn.	10.00
Mr. Coleman duPont, Del.	850.00
Mrs. Mary K. Macarty, N. H.	158.75
Mrs. John G. Berquist, N. Y.	25.00
Mrs. Anna D. Geller, N. Y.	25.00
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Mrs. J. Ortiz, Del.	150.00
Missouri Branch	130.00
Mr. William Randolph Hearst, Calif., in memory of Mrs. Phoebe Hearst	1,507.14
Receipts from rummage sale	140.00
Receipts from peanut sale	40.00
Receipts from Mah Jong parties	76.50
Miscellaneous contributions and receipts from sale of Amendment Seals	151.41
Mrs. Adele Salisbury, D. C.	4.00
Miss Caroline Schaff, Ill.	10.00
Mrs. Ada Raymond Wolff, N. Y.	10.00
Mr. John Pries, Colo.	5.00
Miss Maud Younger, Calif.	12.00
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Mrs. Marian Neisser Kirlin	2.50
Miss Harriet I. Foss, N. Y.	10.00
Rent of rooms at Headquarters	102.00
Telephone receipts	1.55
Sale and rent of typewriters	39.00
Sale of postage	.20
Sale of leaflets "1913-1926"	.25
Total receipts, August 20 to 31, 1926	$5,366.55
Total receipts, December 7, 1912, to August 31, 1926	$1,365,107.08

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